

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claims 1-13 are pending. Claims 1 and 2 have been amended for clarity. Support for Claims 3-13 is found in the disclosure as follows: Claims 3-4, page 16, lines 20-22; Claim 5, page 7, lines 34-36; Claim 6, page 14, lines 27-28; Claim 7, pages 13, lines 1-3 and 35-36; Claim 8, page 12, line 33; Claim 9, page 13, lines 28-30; Claim 10, page 14, line 28, and Claims 11-13, page 12, line 32, page 13, lines 1-3, 28-30 and 35-36. Accordingly the Applicants do not believe that any new matter has been introduced. Favorable consideration of this amendment and allowance of the application is now respectfully requested.

Support for Claims 1-13 in Priority Document (JP 2001-152234)

Support for the new claims is found in the priority document as follows: Claims 1-2 (Claims 1-2, page 2); Claims 3-4, page 18, [0058]; Claim 5, page 9 [0021]; Claim 6, page 16 [0050]; Claim 7, pages 16 [0045] and page 17 [0048]; Claim 8, page 14, [0044]; Claim 9, page 15 [0047]; Claim 10, page 16 [0050], and Claims 11-13, page 16 [0044-0045] and page 17 [0047-0048].

Rejection – 35 U.S.C. § 102

Claims 1 and 2 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by Sekino et al., U.S. Patent No. 6,794,089. This rejection is moot in view of the Applicants' perfection of their foreign priority date to JP2001-152234, filed May 22, 2001. Support for independent Claims 1 and 2 is found in Claims 1 and 2 of the priority document (page 2).

Rejection – 35 U.S.C. § 103

Claims 1 and 2 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103 as being unpatentable over Ueda et al., U.S. Publication 2002/0192565. This rejection is moot in view of the Applicants'

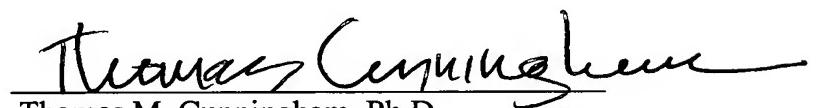
perfection of their foreign priority date to JP2001-152234, filed May 22, 2001. Support for independent Claims 1 and 2 is found in Claims 1 and 2 of the priority document (page 2).

**CONCLUSION**

In view of the above amendments and remarks, the Applicants respectfully submit that this application is now in condition for allowance. Early notification to that effect is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

OBLON, SPIVAK, McCLELLAND,  
MAIER & NEUSTADT, P.C.  
Norman F. Oblon

  
Thomas M. Cunningham, Ph.D.  
Attorney of Record  
Reg. No. 45,394

Customer Number  
**22850**

Tel: (703) 413-3000  
Fax: (703) 413 -2220  
(OSMMN 06/04)  
TMC:aif